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26. (New) The method of driving according to claim 21, further comprising:
generating the first voltage using a first voltage source;
generating the second voltage using a second voltage source; and
applying the first and second voltage to the plurality of scanning lines using a switch,
the switch being selectively connectable to both the first and second voltage sources, wherein
the switch connects to the first and second voltage sources prior to the application of the first
voltage to consecutive ones of the plurality of scanning lines.

REMARKS

In the Office Action dated August 14, 2001, claims 1-6 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Kusafuka et al. (USP 5,995,074), and claims 7-20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Kusafuka et al. in view of Yasui et al. (USP 5,784,039).

Claims 1-20 were pending in the application. Applicant adds new claims 21-26. Accordingly, claims 1-26 are new pending in the subject application, of which claims 1, 7, 16, and 21 are independent. Applicant respectfully requests the reexamination and reconsideration of this application.

Applicants respectfully submit that, Kusafuka et al. (USPN 5,995,074) fails to teach or suggest a (first) gate voltage change prior to exciting of successive gate signal lines. Such is expressly provided for in independent claims 1, 10, 16, and 21. In claim 1, please reference "... said first gate voltage changing prior to exciting of successive gate signal lines." In claim 10, please reference (at the end of the claim) "... the first gate voltage changing prior to exciting of successive gate signal lines." In claim 16, please reference (at the end of the

claim), "... the voltage level of the first control voltage received by the driver changes during a period of the scanning clock signal prior to the driver selecting a successive scanning line." In claim 21, please reference (at the end of the claim "...wherein the second voltage is sequentially applied to each of the plurality of gate lines... prior to the sequential application of the first voltage to each consecutive one of the plurality of gate lines."

Therefore, Applicants believe that the ordinary artisan could not have implemented the invention defined by claims 1, 10, 16, and 21 even by referring to Kusafuka et al. (USPN 5,995,074). The Examiner is requested to consider this important distinction and to allow independent claims 1, 10, 16, and 21. Furthermore, as all of the other pending claims are dependent on independent claims 1, 10, 16, or 21 all of the pending claims are deemed allowable.

Applicant believes the foregoing places the application in condition for allowance. An early, favorable action is respectfully solicited.

If these papers are not considered timely filed by the Patent and Trademark Office, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. §1.136, and any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 for any necessary extension of time, or any other fees required to complete the filing of this response, may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-0911. Please credit any overpayment to deposit Account No. 50-0911.

Application No.: 09/211,677
Group Art Unit: 2674

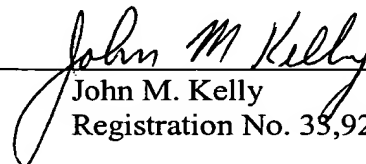
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If for any reason the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned attorney at (202) 624-1200 to discuss the steps necessary for placing the application in condition for allowance. All correspondence should continue to be sent to the below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

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